

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 967

By Burks

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mr. Ray Minton on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those persons who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ray Minton is one such estimable person who has served with probity for 32 years with Cannon County Election Commission; and

WHEREAS, in 1966 a cancerous tumor was detected on Mr. Minton's spinal cord; the cancer soon rendered him unable to walk and took away his ability to do some of the activities he truly loved including his work on automobiles; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Minton's road to recovery and adjustment to his condition was smoothed by the faith and confidence of his wife, Helen, and other family members and friends; his attitude that "No matter the station in life... no matter how lofty or how ordinary... the secret of a fruitful, fulfilling life is having a servant's spirit. Be a servant. Remember, you're never above people. You're here to serve people. That's the essence of living... serving others"; and

WHEREAS, Ray Minton's attitude and spirit have impacted his fellow Cannon County resident's perceptions of him; when he rolls into Joe's Place for breakfast on the Woodbury public square people see Ray Minton, not his wheelchair; and

WHEREAS, while Mr. Minton has witnessed many changes during his illustrious 32 years with the Election Commission, including the replacement of paper ballots with automated voting procedures and the computerization of previously handwritten and typed election book records, the unpredictability and occasional humor inherent in any work involving contact with the public has remained constant; and

WHEREAS, Ray Minton departs his office with the admiration and best wishes of the citizens of Cannon County; he exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Minton is a man to be emulated for his positive response to a condition that, for most people, would be debilitating; he is described by friends as "... a stand-up kind of guy. He's always up-beat and so positive," and "He's bigger in life than distant sports heroes and movie stars..."; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Ray Minton has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their fullest potential, winning the respect and admiration of his peers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we extend to Mr. Ray Minton, of Cannon County, our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.